

[HOME](#)

[Site Français](#) [Site Guide](#) [Who We Are](#) [Content Providers](#) [Advertising](#) [My Account](#) [MyAfrica](#) [Biztec](#)

Relevant Links

[Sustainable Development](#)
[International Organizations and Africa](#)
[Environment](#)
[Climate](#)

Topics**FREE EMAIL HEADLINES**

[Special Reports & Briefings](#)
[Photo Essays](#)
[From allAfrica](#)
[Sustainable Africa](#)
[Topical Focus Pages](#)
[Resources and Documents](#)
[RSS Feeds](#)
[BlogAfrica](#)

[Arts, Culture, Entertainment](#)
[Books](#)

[Book Reviews](#)
[Children & Youth](#)
[Conflict and Security](#)
[Crime and Corruption](#)
[Economy, Business, & Finance](#)

[Editorials](#)
[Education](#)
[Environment](#)
[Food, Agriculture and Rural Issues](#)

[Health](#)
[AIDS](#)
[Malaria](#)
[ICT and Telecom](#)
[Legal Affairs and Crime](#)
[Media](#)
[Music](#)
[Music Reviews](#)
[Religion](#)
[Refugees](#)
[Science and Biotech](#)
[Sport](#)
[Soccer](#)

[Travel](#)
[Women](#)

[U.S., Canada and Africa](#)
[Europe and Africa](#)
[Asia, Australia, and Africa](#)
[Middle East and Africa](#)
[Latin America and Africa](#)

[Internet Gateway](#)
[Content Providers](#)

United Nations Environment Program (Nairobi)**Africa: UNEP's Year in Review 2011 - July to December**

3 January 2012

PRESS RELEASE

[Email](#) | [Print](#) | [Comment](#)

Share:



From UNEP's contribution to the UN's 'International Year of Forests' to the rapidly evolving analysis of how to catalyze a global transition towards a Green Economy, 2011 has proven to be a defining year for the environmental pillar of sustainable development as the world heads towards Rio+20 in June 2012.

Here are some highlights of UNEP's activities for the last half of the year.

July 2011

Despite the economic recession, global investments in green energy grew by nearly a third to US\$211 billion in 2010. This is according to the Global Trends in Renewable Energy Investment 2011 Publication and the REN21 Renewables 2011 Global Status report released in July 2011.

For what is believed to be the first time ever, the Executive Director of UNEP was invited to address the UN Security Council during a debate on security and climate change.

Achim Steiner emphasized that science should guide member states' views on the links and in conclusion added: "There can be little doubt today that climate change has potentially far-reaching implications for global stability and security in economic, social and environmental terms which will increasingly transcend the capacity of individual nation States to manage. In that context the sustainable development paths of individual nations will increasingly be predicated upon the ability of the international community to act collectively in addressing these developments".

August 2011

After 14 months of intense field work, UNEP launched the Environmental Assessment of Ogoniland which showed that pollution from over 50 years of oil operations in the region has penetrated further and deeper than many have supposed. T

he report recommended the establishment of Ogoniland Environmental Restoration Authority to oversee implementation of the study's recommendations.

During the World Water Week, healthy ecosystems as the basis for sustainable water resources and stable food security were recognized. This was highlighted in a report - An Ecosystems Approach to Water and Food Security, launched by UNEP and the **International Water Management Institute (IWMI)**, in partnership with 19 other organizations.

A new report by the UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Center gave eight million seven hundred thousand (give or take 1.3 million) as the latest estimated total number of species on Earth and the most precise calculation ever offered. The report said that 91% of species in the seas have yet to be discovered, described or catalogued.

September 2011

Following the launch of the first part of the report in May 2011, a coalition of the world's foremost financial institutions brought together by UNEP'S Finance Initiative launched REDDy-Set-Grow Part II: Recommendations for international climate change negotiators in September 2011. In the new report, financiers called for Forestry-Based Carbon Markets and

SELECT ..

SELECT

IN TOPICAL FOCUS**AFRICA VIDEO FROM A****MOST ACTIVE STOR**

Most Read | Most Co

1. [Why Chinese C](#)
2. [Orange Africa C](#)

warned of huge cost of failure at the Durban Climate Change meeting.

As the world prepares for the Rio+20 conference in June 2012, more than 1,400 young people from 120 countries gathered in Indonesia for the Tunza International Children and Youth Conference with a strong focus on employment.- the Bandung Declaration identified access to green jobs as critical for achieving a sustainable transition to the Green Economy.

October 2011

UNEP launched the Cities chapter of the Green Economy report at the Gwangju Summit of the Urban Environmental Accords in the Republic of Korea.

The chapter emphasized the role of improved planning and more intelligent management of cities across the developed and developing world in growing economies, boosting social improvements and reducing humanity's environmental footprint.

With economic recovery topping the United States and global political agenda, a group of CEOs, major investors and bankers together with former United Kingdom Prime Minister Gordon Brown and former President of Ireland Mary Robinson called for a far-reaching reform of the international financial system at the UNEP Finance Initiative's Global Roundtable.

November 2011

UNEP launched the report; 'Keeping Track of Our Changing Environment: From RIO to Rio+20'. The report focused on the environmental changes that have swept the planet over the last twenty years and lays-out the challenges and opportunities for sustainable development up to Rio+20 and beyond.

Representatives from 120 governments gathered at the headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi for negotiations towards a global treaty on mercury. The third of five sessions of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC3) addressed the release of mercury into the environment from energy production and industrial processes and the use of mercury in small-scale gold mining, consumer goods and its presence in hazardous wastes, among other issues.

After comments by governments and stakeholders, the final 'Towards a Green Economy: Pathways to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication' report was released at an event in Beijing China. The report demonstrated that governments and businesses alike are taking steps to accelerate a global shift towards a low-carbon, resource-efficient and socially inclusive green future.

Member governments of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) approved the Summary for Policymakers of the Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation (SREX). The summary provides insights into how disaster risk management and adaptation may assist vulnerable communities to better cope with a changing climate in a world of inequalities.

In the run up to the UN climate convention meeting in Durban, South Africa, UNEP launched the report HFCs: A Critical Link in Protecting Climate and the Ozone Layer. The report projects that by 2050 HFCs could be responsible for emissions equivalent to 3.5 to 8.8 Gigatonnes (Gt) of carbon dioxide (Gt CO2eq) - comparable to total current annual emissions from transport, estimated at around 6-7 Gt annually calling for urgent action.

The report Bridging the Emissions Gap was also launched in the run up to the UN climate convention meeting in Durban, South Africa. It outlined the pathways to 2020 able to deliver the additional 6 to 11 Gigatonne cuts needed to get world onto safe track.

The report Actions for Controlling Short-Term Climate Forcers was the last pre-COP17 report to be launched. It presented a package of 16 measures which could, if fully implemented across the globe, save close to 2.5 million lives a year; avoid crop losses amounting to 32 million tonnes annually and deliver near-term climate protection of about half a degree C by 2040.

During the Durban climate change meeting UNEP launched a report showing that changes in climate trends are impacting livelihoods and food security in the Sahel and West Africa. The report - Livelihood Security: Climate Change, Migration and Conflict in the Sahel, uses an innovative mapping process to identify 19 "climate hotspots" where climatic changes have been the most severe and which warrant focused adaptation planning and other follow-up activities.

At the 10th Conference of Parties (COP 10) to the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) held in Bergen, Norway from

Relevant Links
Sustainable Development

3. [Forty Nations R Benefits](#)
4. [Elusive Evidence Cut Poverty](#)
5. [UNEP's Year in](#)
6. [Reduced Risk o Costs](#)
7. [Beyond Remitta Meet Developm](#)
8. [Continent Can F to Place Food F](#)
9. [Horn and Easte](#)
10. [Toure Crowned](#)

AT A GLANCE » A

- [War Crimes Court Participation](#)
- [Global Banks 'Ram Arab Spring - Stole Elusive Evidence & Cut Poverty Why Chinese Com](#)

MORE NEWS FRO

- [Africa: UNEP's Year in Review December](#)
- [Africa: UNEP's Year in Review June](#)
- [Africa: New Phase Network](#)
- [Africa: UN Calls for Land Degradation](#)
- [Africa: UN Announces Focus On Ent](#)

Recommendati

-  **Nigeria: Live Monday**
9 people re
-  **Nigeria: Jonathan**
46 people r
-  **Topical Focus Nigerian F**
48 people r
-  **Kenya: De**
13 people r

Facebook social plug

20-25 November, efforts to conserve seven migratory species, from the Giant Manta Ray to the Saker Falcon, were strengthened.

**International Organisations
Environment
Climate**

Spanish soccer star Carles Puyol, who captains FC Barcelona and led Spain to the World Cup title one year ago, became the face of the new campaign from the United Nations Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP) and International Animal Rescue (IAR) that seeks to halt the orangutan's dramatic slide towards extinction.

In November, UNEP also released its Final Environmental Review of the 2010 World Exposition (Shanghai Expo) which is a complete appraisal of the environmental and social impacts of the six-month long event with recommendations that could be replicated in future international mass events.

December 2011

[Recommend](#)

Be the first of your friends to recommend this.

AllAfrica aggregates and indexes content from over [125 African news organizations](#), plus more than [200 other sources](#), who are responsible for their own reporting and views. Articles and commentaries that identify **allAfrica.com** as the publisher are [produced or commissioned by AllAfrica](#).

AllAfrica - All the Time

Be the first to [Write a Comment!](#)

TODAY'S FEATURED NEWS



Nigerian Fuel Protests Turn Violent



Thousands Need Help After Ethnic Attacks in South Sudan



Risk of Waterborne Diseases Grows in Zimbabwe

BUSINESS/TECHNOLOGY NEWS



Nigeria: Transport Fares Spike Over Fuel Subsidy



Swaziland: Small Loans Help Fight Economic Crisis



No New African Countries Eligible for AGOA Trade Benefits